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	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
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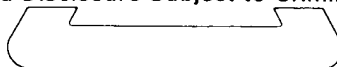
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DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS

NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
NOCONTRACT-	Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants
PROPIN-	Caution-Proprietary Information Involved
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Attachment to Z-15195/82

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NPIC/IEG(4/82)

2 APRIL 1982

TANK BATTALION
EL TEMPISQUE TANK STORAGE AREA, NICARAGUA

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1. (S/D) SIGNIFICANCE: CONFIRMATION OF TANK BATTALION IN NICARAGUA.
2. (S/D) REMARKS: FIFTEEN T-54/55 MEDIUM TANKS AND FOUR POSSIBLE TANKS WERE IDENTIFIED AT EL TEMPISQUE TANK STORAGE AREA [REDACTED] THIS IS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF TANKS OBSERVED ON IMAGERY OF NICARAGUA AND REPRESENTS THE MAJORITY OF THE 22 TANKS EXPECTED TO BE IN A NICARAGUAN TANK BATTALION.

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(S/D) FIVE OF THE 15 TANKS WERE CANVAS COVERED. IN ALL CASES HAZE PREVENTED POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION OF THE FOUR POSSIBLE TANKS. SIXTEEN OF THE TANKS WERE PARKED IN STORAGE REVETMENTS AND THREE WERE IN THE DRIVER'S TRAINING AREA. THE STORAGE REVETMENTS HAVE USUALLY BEEN COVERED BY CANVAS ON PREVIOUS COVERAGE. TANKS WERE FIRST OBSERVED HERE IN AUGUST 1981. THE PREVIOUS HIGH COUNT OF TANKS WAS EIGHT [REDACTED] [REDACTED] NORMALLY, ONLY THREE OR FEWER TANKS HAVE BEEN SEEN. [REDACTED]

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3. (S) [REDACTED] COORDINATES 12-13-00N 086-20-30W

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